

# The Cromwell Argus

## AND NORTHERN GOLD-FIELDS GAZETTE.

No. 11, VOL. I.

CROMWELL, OTAGO: WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 19, 1870.

(PRICE, SIXPENCE.)

### Cromwell Advertisements



**THE PEOPLE'S BAKERY.**  
J. SCOTT,  
BREAD AND BISCUIT BAKER,  
Melmore-street, Cromwell.

Families waited on for orders, and Bread regularly delivered in all parts of the district.

### BRIDGE HOTEL, CROMWELL.

**JOHN MARSH,**  
or the Bridge Hotel, Cromwell.

### IS DETERMINED TO GIVE VALUE FOR MONEY.

**CROMWELL VETERINARY**

SHOEING FORGE

Next door to Smitham's Kawarau Hotel.

**EDWARD LINDSAY,**

(late of Clyde and Melbourne),

GENERAL BLACKSMITH, FARRIER,

AND MACHINIST.

E. L. begs to inform the public of Cromwell that he has purchased the business of Mr Thompson, and trusts by strict attention to business, and the execution of all work placed in his hands, in a first-class and workmanlike manner, to merit a continuance of the support accorded his predecessor.

### Cromwell Advertisements

**CROMWELL HOTEL,**  
CROMWELL  
ROBERT KIDD, PROPRIETOR.

The travelling public and Commercial Gentlemen will find this the most convenient house to put up at in Cromwell. There are excellent bed, private sitting, and dining rooms, and attached to the establishment is a magnificent Billiard Saloon, and the largest hall for Concerts, Balls, or Theatrical Representations out of Dunedin.

Excellent Stabling, &c.

**CROMWELL.**

**M R M A N D E R S,**  
LEGAL AND MINING AGENT.

Registered to practise in the Warden's Courts for the Dunstan Gold-fields.

Agent for the Northern Fire and Life Insurance Company (capital Two Millions).



**W. H. W H E T T E R,**  
BOOTMAKER,  
MELMORE-STREET, CROMWELL.

A large and varied stock of Home and Colonial made Boots and Shoes on hand, to which attention is respectfully requested.

PRICES MODERATE.

**DAGG'S**

**CLUTHA HOTEL,**

**CROMWELL.**

Best Accommodation for Visitors.

**PRETTY FAIR LIQUOR.**

**FIRST-CLASS STABLING.**

**GINGERBEER & CORDIALS.**  
TO THE INHABITANTS  
OF THE  
CROMWELL DISTRICT.

THE Undersigned begs leave to intimate to the public that he is prepared to supply them with GINGERBEER and CORDIALS, of a superior description, and at prices to defy competition.

GINGERBEER ..... 3s. PER DOZ.

CORDIALS ..... 20s. PER DOZ.

Encourage Local Industry, and Patronise  
**JOHN M. KELLY,**

**GOLDEN AGE HOTEL, CROMWELL.**

### Cromwell Advertisements

**JUNCTION**  
**COMMERCIAL HOTEL,**  
CROMWELL

**G. W. GOODGER,**  
PROPRIETOR.

In returning thanks for past favors, begs to announce that neither trouble nor expense have been spared to render the above establishment second to none upon the Gold-fields.

Being situated in the very centre of the town, it affords every convenience for Commercial Travellers and others visiting the Cromwell district.

The Bedrooms, Private Parlors, &c., are fitted up with every regard to comfort and convenience.

The BILLIARD SALOON (the largest in the district) is provided with one of Alcock's Tables.

Extra attention has been bestowed upon the STABLING DEPARTMENT, and as it has been placed under the management of an experienced groom, the public may rely upon every care being taken of horses.

Smithfield Butchery Company.



**O WEN PIERCE** (late of St. Bathans) having purchased from Mr W. J. BARRY the Butchery Business lately carried on by him in Cromwell, begs to intimate that he is in a position to supply the best description of meat at moderate prices.

O. P. hopes by strict attention to business, and keeping meat of the very best quality, to obtain a share of public support.

#### PRELIMINARY NOTICE.

**WILLIAM BARNES,**  
BLACKSMITH AND FARRIER,

(late of Addlestone, Surrey),

Begs to announce to the inhabitants of CROMWELL and the surrounding Districts that he is about to start in the above business near the Bridge Hotel; and trusts, by strict attention to business, coupled with moderate charges, to secure a share of the work of the district.

**SHAMROCK STORE,**

**CROMWELL.**

**WILLIAM SHANLY & Co.,**

WHOLESALE AND RETAIL

**WINE, SPIRIT, AND PROVISION**

**MERCHANTS.**

A large and varied assortment of

**WINES, SPIRITS, AND GROCERIES.**

Goods delivered in all parts of the district, free of charge.

### Cromwell Advertisements

**KAWARAU HOTEL,**  
CROMWELL

WILLIAM SMITHAM, PROPRIETOR.

The best conducted and most comfortable Hotel in the District.

A FIRST-CLASS BILLIARD ROOM,  
With one of Alcock's best Tables.

Coaches leave for Queenstown and Arrow every Monday, Wednesday, and Friday, at 9 a.m.; for Clyde every Tuesday, Thursday, and Saturday, at 3.30 p.m.; and for Cardrona and Albertown every Wednesday at 9 a.m.

N.B.—W. S. having erected a large range of Stabling, would intimate to Travellers that every care will be bestowed upon horses. An experienced groom in attendance.

**DAVID WEAVER,**  
Wholesale and Retail

**STOREKEEPER,**  
WINE AND SPIRIT MERCHANT,  
Melmore-street, Cromwell.

D. WEAVER begs to inform the Inhabitants of Cromwell and surrounding Districts that having bought the Premises lately occupied by Mr DAVID BOOTH, he has now on hand an assorted STOCK OF NEW GOODS,

Consisting of  
Wines and Spirits, Groceries, Drapery, Boots, &c. &c., of the best qualities; and trusts, by strict attention to business, and moderate prices, to merit a share of public patronage.

**CROMWELL.**



**FREE TRADE BUTCHERY,**

(Wholesale and Retail),

**JAMES DAWKINS** PROPRIETOR.

A supply of Beef, Mutton, Veal, Pork, Hams, Bacon, &c., always on hand.

Meat delivered at Town Prices throughout the district.

[A CARD.]

**D. R. JAMES CORSE,**  
SURGEON,

May be consulted daily at his residence,  
MELMORE-STREET,

CROMWELL.

**I. HALLENSTEIN & CO.,**

GENERAL IMPORTERS,

**Melbourne, Queenstown, Arrowtown, & Cromwell.**

We have much pleasure in calling the attention of the inhabitants of CROMWELL and surrounding districts to our

**Large and well-selected Stock,**

Which is specially suitable to supply their wants. Each Department will be found complete, and assorted with every requirement.

General Drapery (comprising all the latest novelties from the Melbourne markets)  
Men's and Boys' Clothing—Carpets—Tents  
English and Colonial Boots, Shoes, &c.  
Ironmongery—Timber and Building Materials, all kinds  
Tinware—Crockery—Lamps and Glassware—Oils and Paints  
Furniture—Stationery—Fancy and Tobacconists' Goods—Medicines  
Saddlery—Leather and Grindery—Garden Seeds  
Produce, consisting of Wakatip Flour, Bran, Pollard, Oats, Claff, &c.

## Australia.

Steps are being taken to present Professor Halford, Melbourne, with a testimonial, in recognition of his valuable services to humanity in the discovery of an antidote to snake poison, by the injection of ammonia into the blood.

The heat in Victoria and the neighbouring colonies has been excessive of late. The Government Astronomer (Melbourne) states that Monday the 20th December, it had reached the highest point—the temperature on the shade having reached 108deg., and 152deg. in the sun. Since 1858 this was only exceeded once—viz., in December, 1868, when it reached 110deg., which was the maximum for the year.

It is stated by a Geelong paper that the trustees of the late J. Calvert, Esq., having offered a small reward for every rabbit killed on the station, had to pay for 70,000 in the short space of three months.

The Joshua Bates has brought, as passengers to Melbourne from the flowery land, fourteen Chinese. Of these two were Chinese ladies, youthful and attractive. They were attended by three Chinese damsels as servants.

Geologists, who have given in their adhesion to the theory "that the Australian continent is of comparatively recent formation," will be startled on learning that a stone hatchet, of superior make to those in use at the present day, has been found in a claim at Ballarat, 300 feet below the surface, and beneath the lowest stratum of the basaltic rock. It was lying in a crevice in the reef on the bed of a tributary gutter, about eighteen inches below the surface of the reef, the bed-rock being slatey schistose. Immediately above, and lying over the hatchet, was a tree reduced to the condition of lignite, and about three feet in diameter. A little further on, several egg-like objects, supposed to be the heads for other implements, intended to be mounted on wooden handles by means of thongs, were discovered. The theory is, that this deeply buried locality had been a camping-place at some remote period of aboriginal existence, abandoned some time before the wave submerged it. The relic has been submitted to the inspection of Professor McCoy, of Melbourne, and he has pronounced it to be simply water-worn stone.

John Boyne O'Reilly, one of the Fenian prisoners transported to Western Australia, sends to the *Irishman* the following narrative of his escape from that settlement:—"On the 18th February I escaped, seized a boat, and went to sea, but had to return to land in the morning. I then lived in the bush for some time, and eventually put to sea again, and before long was picked up by an American whaler. When the captain knew who and what I was, he installed me cabin passenger, and as he was on a six months' cruise for whales, I remained on board for that time, and every day had a fresh instance of his kindness, and of the officers and all on board. I had some very close escapes from being retaken, but the officers were determined I should not; and in one English island at which we touched, the Governor came on board, and demanded me to be given up, as he had instructions that I was on board. The chief mate answered him by pointing to the 'Stars and Stripes,' which floated at the half-mast—in sign of mourning—and said, 'I know nothing of any "convict" named O'Reilly, who escaped from New Holland; but I did know Mr O'Reilly, who was a political prisoner there, and he was on board this ship, but you cannot see him—he is dead; and he was forced to be content with that. I am making my way to America.'

As a sample of Chinese enterprise in Australia, we do not remember to have met with anything to beat this. It is from the correspondent of the *Rockhampton Bulletin*, on the Gilbert:—"Vegetables are now brought in regularly by the Chinese from their gardens, 55 miles distant, at reasonable prices."

Silver-mining in South Australia is beginning to assume important dimensions and a remunerative character. The *S. A. Register* gives the following as the return from the Almada mine for the week ending December 18:—Amalgam, 368lb 2oz; ore, 119 tons, crushed; 13 bars melted silver from the mine arrived on Tuesday afternoon, of good appearance, weighing about 4000 ounces. This is equivalent to a yield of £8 sterling per ton.

Now that the hot weather is upon us, writes the *Kyneton Observer*, several housekeepers have been induced to try the preservative powers of the bi-sulphate of lime, and the result, as reported to us, has been very satisfactory. By its use joints of meat have been kept perfectly sweet for a month, and even milk has been preserved for eight or nine days by covering the vessel containing it with a cloth dipped in the preparation. As the bi-sulphate is procurable at 1s 6d per bottle, and the process of applying it is simply to brush over the meat with the preservative, the experiment is within the reach of everybody. Joints treated after this fashion can be hung as long as required, and thereby the meat becomes tender and palatable. The practice of eating fresh-killed meat in hot weather is very unwholesome, and can be avoided by the use of the bi-sulphate.

## The Provinces.

A correspondent of the *Lyttelton Times* writes that a large quantity of machinery, and also a number of operatives for the Welsh flannel and tweed woollen cloth company, have been shipped from England for Canterbury.

According to the *Wairarapa Mercury*, the deer are thriving on the East Coast, a herd of five having selected the Awha river as their haunt.

The *Thames Advertiser* notices the death of Mr Richard M'Elwain, at the extreme old age of 97 years. The deceased was father to Mr George M'Elwain, who arrived here with Governor Hobson in 1840, and was the first gaoler appointed in Auckland.

A meeting of merchants was held in Mr Edward Pearce's offices, Wellington, on the 10th ult., to consider the propriety of urging the Government to again subsidize steamers to carry the English mail to and from the Colony. The hon. C. J. Pharamy occupied the chair. After some discussion, it was resolved that a deputation should wait on the Colonial Secretary at one o'clock the next day.

In the last number of the *Wanganui Times*, Mr Walter Taylor intimates his retirement from the editorship of that journal. We are sorry that either from failing health or any other cause such a necessity should have arisen. We had not much to say to our local contemporaries, indeed, than we could have wished—but its career was such a tirade of personalities and calumnies, instead of a discussion of honest differences of opinion, that there was nothing else for it. We are willing, however, to believe that the system indulged in was more the misfortune than the fault of the retired editor. He fell into bad hands, and probably felt unable to extricate himself from a false position. Be that as it may, he did us no hurt, and we not only bear him no grudge, but should be glad to do him any kindness. He meant well, and we hope his retirement will be followed by the reward to which many a laborious day and night have well entitled him. The *Times*, long in a state of hopeless consumption—wasting away—has, we presume, ceased to exist.—*Wanganui Chronicle*.

Judging by a recent paragraph in the *Dunstan Times*, dead men are capable of communicating information not only in the spirit but in the flesh. Our contemporary reports the following incident:—"An accident attended with fatal results occurred at the Nevis on Friday last, the victim being a Chinaman. Our informant, Mr Chin Chee, states that the sides of the claim in which he was working fell in and buried him, and before he could be extricated life was extinct!"—*Oamaru Times*.

Thomas Webb Draper, news of whose arrest for forgery reached us by last mail, was formerly manager of the Bank of New Zealand at Mount Ida, Otago. He was the only son of the Rev. Mr Draper, lost in the ill-fated London.

The *Taranaki Herald* says:—"Captain Morshead has informed us that during last week his bees performed a feat hitherto unrivalled in New Zealand, a last year's hive having swarmed four times in eight days. The swarms, he assures us, were all above the average size, and are now care fully housed, and can be seen by any one."

On the first day of the Hokitika races, Dec. 30th, a very sad accident occurred. A young jockey, named Morris Cahill, was thrown from the horse Native, while riding in the Hurdle Race. He died in the Hokitika hospital on Sunday, January 2. The unfortunate young man was never sensible after the accident. The funeral took place on the day following his death, and is thus described by the *Hokitika*.

The *Hokitika Jockey Club* were present, on foot and on horseback, as also a number of other citizens, who wished to pay the last tribute to a young man who had so suddenly come to his end. The procession turned up Revell-street, turning down Stafford street to the Catholic Church, where the usual ceremonies of that faith were then performed by the Rev. Father Martin. The building was crammed, a great many ladies being in attendance. After this the procession re-formed, when the concluding service for the dead was read by the same clergyman, the deceased being carried to his last home by the jockeys. Throughout the proceedings there was evinced hearty and deep commiseration at the untimely fate of the poor young man.

James Wilson, the brave little boy who brought assistance to his mother, mortally wounded at the Matawhero massacre—the sad story of which is too well known to require repetition—has been awarded an annuity of £50 a-year, under the "Walsh and others Pension Act, 1869," and leave to select 100 acres of Crown land in the Province of Hawke's Bay; Messrs Robert Wilson, of Turakina, and N. E. Boamish, of Rangitikei, being appointed trustees to whom the money shall be paid, and who shall select the land.

## Death from Lightning at Picton.

(From the *Marlborough Press*.)

It is our painful duty to record a melancholy accident, of a very unusual nature in New Zealand, which occurred on the evening of Wednesday last at the residence of E. T. Conolly, Esq., of Picton, resulting in the death of Mr Conolly's second son, Edward, aged 11 years, and causing considerable damage to the house. During the afternoon thunder was heard in the distance, and, from the threatening appearance of the weather to the northward, a storm was expected. At five o'clock it commenced to rain, increasing, with occasional peals of distant thunder, until about six o'clock, when the rain poured down in torrents. About this time a very vivid flash of lightning occurred, instantly followed by a terrific crash of thunder, such as we have never before experienced. Mr Conolly and most of the family were at this time outside the house on the verandah, when the roof of the house, at the gable-end overlooking the Waitohi stream, was struck by the lightning, which shattered the timber and shingles, spreading them in all directions, smashing the upper window, and splitting one of the verandah posts in pieces. At this moment Mr Conolly, and, as he supposed, the whole of the family, retreated inside the house; but, on turning to close the door, he saw his son Edward lying on his back. He immediately returned, took him up, and carried him inside, when it was found he was struck by lightning on the head and chest, the hair of the head being singed. Dr Tripe was at once sent for, but he was away from home at the time. Every means at hand were used to restore animation, but without avail, and Dr Muller, who arrived shortly after, pronounced life quite extinct.

After striking the house, the electric fluid appears to have gone right through the building under the roof to the lean-to at the back of the house, which is covered with iron roofing. Here it made a breach, tearing the nails from the roof, then proceeded through the pantry window, smashing the whole of the glass in that part of the house, and thence on to the zinc spouting, which it followed round on either side, cutting off the pipes overhanging the water tanks. A person who saw the house when it was struck says that for a few moments the roof appeared to be in a blaze of fire, and immediately afterwards it was seen to be smoking; but we suppose the heavy rain that was falling at the time prevented the building taking fire.

Several persons have expressed themselves as having seen a ball of fire at the time, and two little girls, after seeing it, told their mother that they had seen a "big moon" go by.

The unfortunate lad was a favourite with all who knew him, from his pleasing and amiable disposition, and his sudden death will no doubt be keenly felt by the family.

## Facts about Quartz Reefs.

The present distinguished Government geologist of New South Wales, the Rev. W. B. Clarke, of Sydney—who has done more than any other individual in any part of the world towards applying science to the development of gold-fields—thus writes in his "Researches in the Southern Gold-fields of New South Wales," (1860):—"In travelling between Taradale and Castlemaine, I was much struck with the fact that the roads are being made with auriferous quartz that is considered too poor to crush except by wheels, and yet the finds by the roadmakers are sometimes great." (p. 265.) . . . . . "Many veins, or 'reefs,' as some call them, of quartz, which are not visibly auriferous, have been treated with contempt, because no great amount of alluvial gold has been found in their vicinity; the popular mind not realizing the possibility of a hard crystalline rock being saturated, as it were, with gold, without any appearance of it in a tangible form." (p. 253.) . . . . . "It is remarkable that in quartz yielding from seven to eight ounces to the ton, the gold is often barely perceptible, and in much that produces as high as five ounces it cannot be observed even by the aid of a powerful lens." (p. 254.) . . . . . "It is, moreover, a very well known fact that a heap of detritus, from which all the gold has apparently been taken out, will yet supply gold after it has been exposed some time to atmospheric action; proving by examples, which many persons at the gold-fields could furnish, that the separation of gold from the matrix still goes on at the present day." (p. 278.) . . . . . "There is no positive certainty that any given reef will be found equally rich throughout, or even auriferous all through." (p. 259.) . . . . . "Though an experiment may succeed so far as a small individual mass of quartz is concerned, within a short distance of it the quartz may be found barren." (p. 260.) . . . . . "There is need of this warning, again given, that neither all reefs, nor all parts of any reef, are equally rich; and where some make their fortunes, many others are beggared!" (p. 265.) Which facts or considerations are to be held as proving that all gold-diggings, though more especially quartz-reefing, are a grand lottery in which, while there are a few prizes, there are more blanks.

## Calcraft.

(From the *Marlborough Press*.)

To the ordinary mind there must be a

good deal of mystery about Calcraft.

What sort of person, being, or "bogie" is

it who acts as the law's instrument in sending

the worst murderers out of the world, after shaking hands with them beside the

drop in the friendliest manner possible?

Does he sleep soundly of nights? Does

he eat and drink like other people? What

is his favourite reading? Does he care

for politics? Is he much given—as Knick-

erbocker has it—to the vice of thinking;

and has he applied the results of a natural

experience to the coinage question? That

he goes to church we were long ago told;

but we occasionally felt that some slight

revelation of the man himself, under his

own hand and seal, as it were, would be

worth a good deal more than any possible

amount of morbid curiosity could extract

from other people. At last we have a

characteristic effusion—a real letter to a

living man—[published in the last issue of

the *Argus*]—and we turn eagerly to see

what it tells us. It appears that once

when Mr Calcraft was called to Taunton

on a little matter of business connected

with his useful avocation, he put up at an

inn, and incurred a little score, which, like

many a greater man before and since, he

neglected to pay. The innkeeper sued him

in the County Court, on Tuesday last, and

obtained a verdict. Calcraft did not appear,

but sent a letter, which was read. From

this production we learn that the hang-

man, when he takes his ease at his inn,

stands treat like another Christian; that

he vehemently resents what he thinks an

overcharge; that he has recourse to highly

poetical metaphor when the occasion re-

quires figures of fancy as well as of Cocker,

and that, in the matter of spelling and

grammar, his education has been most de-

cidedly defective. He tells mine host that

he is "a Shamed" at his meanness in send-

ing "a piece of paper" to pay the "son of

14s., which i never had half of it," that

he supposes the innkeeper thought of

"fritening" him; but ho adds, "I was

born too near awood to be fritened by

an owl" "The Shiriff" ought to have

settled long ago i have sent you the

Beasteley bit of paper," and as soon as

convant will send you apost office order."

Then he concludes with an emphatic de-

claration that he "never was served such

a mean action" in all his life. It is a pity

that Mr Calcraft ever took a pen in his hand.

After all, he owes something to the public,

who would have regarded him as a grie-

some mystery if he kept consistently in

the shade; but who can now be expected

to see anything in a man who spells like a

kitchen wench, and uses tropes as freely

as Mr George Henry Moore? In Calcraft's

descent to the County Court, another illu-

sion is destroyed.—*Daily Telegraph*.

## The Great Eastern.

The saying that "everything has its use," was never more magnificently illustrated than by the Great Eastern. For years after that giantess was launched with so much difficulty, disaster appeared to dog her. She scalded her stokers, blew up her own cabins, ran aground, failed as a passenger ship, failed as a merchantman, ruined two or three sets of proprietors, and was generally pronounced a colossal mistake. But her day arrived along with submarine telegraphy, and now she has become a sort of terrestrial machine—a ship of the planet—without whose mighty aid it is not possible to carry and lay a deep-sea cable. Since she has thus found out her proper mission, folk have found out also what a splendid piece of ship-builders' craft the vast vessel is. The Great Eastern is in reality one of the handsomest and handiest sea-ships afloat, and does all her duty well, whether you load her with an extra 10,000 tons or not. She never pitches, while she rolls but slightly, and in a most stately way, to a heavy cross sea. As she now lies in the Medway, with her tropical suit of bright white paint, and the Indian Telegraph cable on board, she is at last, as her worst calam

## Kawarau Gorge Advertisements

**DIGGER'S REST HOTEL,**  
KAWARAU GORGE.

**NICHOLAS CAMPION,**  
Proprietor.

Wines and Spirits of the best description.

## STABLING.

**S L UICER'S ARMS HOTEL,**  
KAWARAU GORGE,

**JOHN WRIGHTSON,**  
Proprietor.

Good ACCOMMODATION FOR TRAVELLERS.

GOOD STABLING. Three LOOSE BOXES, second to none.

## BILLIARDS.

**WHITE HART HOTEL,**

KAWARAU GORGE,

(On the main road to Queenstown).

**THOMAS HERON,**  
Proprietor.

Good ACCOMMODATION FOR TRAVELLERS.

## Queenstown Advertisements.

**QUEENSTOWN SHOEING FORGE.**

**J. BRIDGE,**  
General Blacksmith and FARRIER,

REES STREET, QUEENSTOWN.

—o—

First-rate Stabling: good Oaten Hay.

—o—

## HORSES FOR HIRE.

**QUEEN'S ARMS HOTEL,**  
QUEENSTOWN.

**A. EICHARDT** .... PROPRIETOR.

Private Rooms for Families.

SAMPLE ROOMS FOR COMMERCIAL TRAVELLERS.

A large and commodious STABLE, capable of accommodating twenty horses, has recently been completed, and has been pronounced by all who have visited the district as second to none in Dunedin. An experienced groom in attendance.

Booking Office for Cobb & Co.'s line of Coaches.

**PRINCE OF WALES HOTEL,**  
(Corner of Beach and Rees streets),  
QUEENSTOWN.

**W. M' LARN** .... PROPRIETOR.

The above Hotel continues to keep up its reputation as one of the most comfortable in the Wakatip district. The best accommodation for visitors and boarders.

## FIRST-CLASS STABLING.

The only paddock accommodation in the district.

**The Pioneer of Sixpenny Drinks.**

**WAKATIP SAW MILLS**

**J. W. ROBERTSON & CO.,**

**TIMBER MERCHANTS,**

QUEENSTOWN.

Every description of SAWN TIMBER constantly on hand, at FRANKTON and QUEENSTOWN.

**ROBERT BOYNE,**

**GENERAL STOREKEEPER**  
AND NEWS AGENT,

Queenstown, Lake Wakatip.

A large stock of Groceries and other goods always on hand. Importer of English and Colonial Newspapers. Orders punctually attended to, and newspapers forwarded to any part of the Island.

Agent for the CROMWELL ARGUS.

## Nevis Advertisements.

**EDWARD THOMPSON,**  
NORTHUMBERLAND ARMS HOTEL  
AND STORE,  
NEVIS.

A large and well-selected stock of Groceries of all descriptions constantly on hand.

Goods delivered throughout the surrounding district on the shortest notice.

A commodious BILLIARD ROOM is now in course of erection, and will shortly be furnished with one of Alcock & Co.'s full-sized BILLIARD Tables.

The best accommodation for Travellers.

Good Stabling.

## BRITISH STORES,

## Nevis.

## Miscellaneous Advertisements.

**JUNCTION HOTEL,**  
TAUFEKA ROAD,  
(Seventeen miles from Lawrence).

**HUGH MACKENZIE,**  
(Late of Manuherikia),

Desires to inform his numerous friends throughout the Northern Gold-fields that he has purchased the JUNCTION HOTEL, lately kept by Mr Thomas Higgs; and that he is enabled to offer, at the above hotel, accommodation equal to that of any house on the road.

Branch Booking Office for Cobb's Coaches to Teviot and Switzers.

Passengers change coaches for Switzers at the Junction Hotel.

Goodstabling and paddock accommodation.

## Dunedin Advertisements.

## HAY BROTHERS,

## TAILORS &amp; OUTFITTERS,

PRINCES-STREET,

DUNEDIN,

Between Messrs Paterson & M'Leod's and the Criterion Hotel.

As our Stock is extremely well assorted  
in every department,

We have great pleasure in inviting the Inhabitants of the Province to inspect it.

And we feel assured that all those who will be kind enough to favour us with a visit,

Will be forced to acknowledge that for Quality, Style, and Cheapness,

It will (to say the least of it) compare favourably with any other in New Zealand.

Our great

Motto in

conducting

our business

is to give such

VALUE to our

Customers as to

induce them to

come back again,

thus making their

interest and ours

IDENTICAL

Our past success

is the best proof

that this leading

principle has been

fully appreciated by

the inhabitants of the

Provinces of OTAGO.

Please Note the Address:

## HAY BROTHERS,

## TAILORS &amp; OUTFITTERS,

PRINCES-STREET,

DUNEDIN,

Between Messrs Paterson & M'Leod's and the Criterion Hotel.

## LONDON PIANOFORTE &amp; MUSIC SALOON.

FOR SALE OR HIRE:

Pianofortes by Collard and Collard

Pianofortes by Broadwood

Pianofortes by Kirkman

Pianofortes by Ralph Allison

Pianofortes by J. and J. Hopkinson.

Mechanism of every description connected with Pianofortes and Harmoniums made and repaired.—'ll the new and standard Music.

CHARLES BEGG,

PIANOFORTE MAKER AND TUNER,

Princes-street north, Dunedin.

## Curiosities of the Post Office.

The "Curiosities of the Post Office" is a book that yet remains to be written. Not very long ago the following postal curiosities, despatched as "packets," were noted:—From Blackburn in Lancashire to Spitalfields, London, two canary-birds, delivered by the postman alive and well. From Devonshire to London, a pork pie. To London, a woodcock, also a pair of piebald mice, which were kept in the Post-office a month, fed, and at last delivered to the owner, who called for them. From Manchester to Castle-street, two rabbits and a bird—15 parcels of plum-pudding. From Bognor to Plymouth, a lobster. In one day, 31 letters containing wedding-cake. On more than one occasion, without any envelope, a bank-note (one was not less than £50), the two ends being merely folded upon each other, wafered, and the back of the note then directed! Innumerable leeches in bladders, several of which having burst, and the water having wetted the letters, many of the poor creatures were found crawling over the correspondence of the country. From Plymouth to Huumanby, a bottle of cream. From a mother to her son, a pottle of strawberries, which, being smashed in the bag, completely destroyed a packet full of very valuable lace. A ship-biscuit, the address being on a very small piece of paper pasted thereon. From Totness to Dublin, an un-covered bottle full of liquor, merely labelled with an address, and the words "sample of cyder." From Exmouth to Hastings, half a pound of soft soap in thin paper. From Bishop's Stortford to Brunswick Square, a fish; also several packages of plants, in wet moss. From Hastings to Bath, a bunch of grapes; also shrimps. From Kingston to Westminster-bridge-road, to Mrs —, a roast duck. A flask of gunpowder. Fifty-three separate "packets," containing each a box of lucifer matches, one of which, on being handled, exploded in the Post-office. A traveller or bagman wrote to his beloved wife for his pistol; she affectionately sent it, labelled, loaded almost to the mouth with powder, balls, and slugs. To the Countess of —, a pair of flesh-brushes; the mail-cart, in coming from the west, was upset into a brook, which dissolved the paper covering of these brushes, and they, probably fancying they had arrived at their journey's end, instantly set to work, and destroyed a considerable portion of the epistolary contents of the bag. To Mr —, a live snake. From London to Wellington, Somersetshire, a very long cucumber. To a naturalist in London, a live mouse, two china tea cups, and a box of live spiders. From Oxford-street to Merion-square, Dublin, addressed to Miss —, a most beautiful head-dress of the genus Jigamaree. From London to Sudbury, two sweetbreads. To —, a human heart, a partridge, a mackerel, a paper of fish-hooks, a human stomach, &c.

The fire was accompanied by a loud roar like that of breakers in a storm. The heat was so intense that no man could come within many hundred yards of the fiery flood: in that waterless region the men who were labouring to turn or stop its course, fainted with heat and thirst, and some were carried home by their companions raving and frantic. The loss of fencing, which has not long been erected at great expense, is of course very great; but the worst of it is that the material out of which fences could be made is all burnt, and how the country is to be enclosed again will be a problem hard to solve. Grass was scarce before, but now a very large extent of country is a blackened smouldering desert. It has been reported that three men who were fencing in that neighbourhood have been burnt, but I have no certainty as to the truth of the report, and it is to be hoped it is not true.

Mr William Chace sends the *S. A. Register* the following account of the late bush fires on Yorke Peninsula:—About one o'clock on the 20th a man living with him came in hurriedly and reported a large fire close at hand, and urged that unless the horses were got out, and a clear space ploughed round the paddocks, they would be burnt out. On going out to look, it was found almost impossible to stand, and quite impossible to walk. Just then the shed was blown down, nearly killing the writer's wife and eldest boy. The storm ceased for a little, and with great difficulty two or three furrows were made on one side of the land. His mate and he then worked for an hour or so in beating out the fire, when the former left to get a drink, and shortly after loud cries were heard from a cart. On running to it, Chace learnt that Mr Goldsworthy's shepherd and his boy had been burnt; and after starting in the cart, they met the poor fellow's wife and three children close to the hut. All scoured the place in search of the man and boy in growing darkness, walking among the bodies of about 1800 dead sheep, when suddenly our informant stumbled upon the dead body of the poor lad, completely roasted. At a little distance the father was discovered, quite naked, his clothes having been burnt off, with the exception of his boots. The shepherd was not dead, so his body was plentifully bathed with kerosene; but the injuries were too awful for the remedy to be of service. He was conveyed to a place of shelter, and died in about an hour. It is believed that nothing could have saved the lives of the wife and her five children had the fire continued its course, but, providentially, the wind turned to the south about 5 o'clock. They are now at Mr Chace's house in a sad plight, having lost everything they possessed by the fire. It appears that during the height of the fire Mr Goldsworthy and his son had to jump off the cliff—a height of 18 to 20 feet—into the sea to save their lives. They remained up to their necks in the water for a long time, nearly choked with the smoke and heat. Their horse and cart went over the cliff; but the animal's life was saved, although the cart was nearly consumed.

## Bush Fires in Australia.

A correspondent of the *Herald Star* writes from the Mallee Scrub:—We have had drought, we have had a run of seasons bad in every way, and now, to crown our misfortunes, we have had the most extensive bush fire that has ever been known in this part of Victoria. On Monday, a fire was seen in the large belt of mallee east of Lake Albany, but as the runs in that quarter are mostly unoccupied, the fire did not attract much attention. On Tuesday, the day being very hot, and a hot wind blowing, the flames travelled fast, and the smoke became dense. On Tuesday night a stream of fire, forty or fifty miles wide, was rushing at a fearfully rapid rate across the country from east to west. By this time Messrs McGinnis and Bell's fences were reached, in spite of all efforts to prevent it. Now it raged with greater fury than ever, and so continued burning the whole of Wednesday and Thursday. Messrs McGinnis have lost about fifty miles of fencing, and it was by the most strenuous exertions that the home station was saved. The fire was accompanied by a loud roar like that of breakers in a storm. The heat was so intense that no man could come within many hundred yards of the fiery flood: in that waterless region the men who were labouring to turn or stop its course, fainted with heat and thirst, and some were carried home by their companions raving and frantic. The loss of fencing, which has not long been erected at great expense, is of course very great; but the worst of it is that the material out of which fences could be made is all burnt, and how the country is to be enclosed again will be a problem hard to solve. Grass was scarce before, but now a very large extent of country is a blackened smouldering desert. It has been reported that three men who were fencing in that neighbourhood have been burnt, but I have no certainty as to the truth of the report, and it is to be hoped it is not true.

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CROMWELL POST-OFFICE SAVINGS BANK

The following are the regulations regarding the management of the above-named institution, and which are also applicable to all the other Post-office Savings Banks in the Colony:—

1. Interest at 5 per cent. per annum is given on sums less than £200; at 4 per cent. on sums over £200 and not exceeding £500 and in the same proportion for any shorter time or on every complete £1 deposited. No interest is allowed on more than £500.

2. Depositors in Post-office Savings Banks have direct Government Security for the prompt repayment of their money.

3. A depositor in any Post-office Bank can continue his

£5 REWARD will be paid for such information as will lead to the conviction of any person riding my Bay Mare, now running on the Cromwell Flat. The mare is branded X C on near shoulder, and has a white mark on near hind fetlock.

W. TALBOYS.

WANTED, a JOURNEYMAN BAKER, for Logantown, Bendigo. Must be a good steady hand.

Apply to Messrs COSSAR & SMITH, Cromwell; or J. STEVENSON, Logantown.

TO MINERS, CAPITALISTS, & OTHERS.

FOR SALE,

THE whole of that valuable MINING PROPERTY, with Plant and Working Materials, consisting of a CREEK CLAIM and TAIL-RAKE, known as the Shamrock and Thistle Company's, Moke Creek.

The above Claim, comprising 12 acres, held under a gold-mining lease for a term of 12 years from 1st August 1868, will be found in first-class working order, and can be strongly recommended as being one of the best and safest investments ever offered in this district.

For particulars apply to Messrs I. HALLEN-STEIN & CO., Cromwell and Queenstown; or to LAWTON & GARDINER, Moke Creek.

CATHOLIC CHURCH.

THE FOUNDATION STONE

OF THE

CATHOLIC CHURCH, CROMWELL,  
WILL BE LAID

ON SUNDAY, 23RD JANUARY, 1870.

Mass at Ten o'clock.

The Rev. Father NORRIS will perform the ceremony of Blessing and will preach on the occasion.

A Collection in aid of the Building Fund will take place.

COMMERCIAL.

ARGUS OFFICE,  
Tuesday afternoon.

Business during the past week has remained about the same as during the previous one, the demand from the outlying districts being small. The first instalment of wool from the Wakatipu passed through here this morning. It was from Marshall and Arndt's, Lake Hayes, and there were three heavily-laden waggons.

Harvesting in this district has commenced, but owing to the scarcity of labourers, progress is slow. A number of men would be able to find employment for a short time in assisting to gather in the crops.

We are sorry to say that the yield of oats in this district, owing to the dry weather we have had, will be small, although we believe that at Wakatipu the crops are looking splendid, and the return of oats and wheat will be very large.

THE

Cromwell Argus.

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 19, 1870.

In order to give our readers full reports of the Mount Ida and Queenstown race meetings, and also a report of the annual meeting of contributors to the funds of the Dunstan District Hospital, we are reluctantly compelled to hold over our usual leading article.

The fortnightly sitting of the Resident Magistrate's and Warden's Courts at Cromwell will be held to-day.

The out-going English mail will close at the Cromwell Post-office to-morrow at 3 p.m.

Between twelve and one o'clock on Monday last, a fire broke out in the kitchen of the Bank of New South Wales, Clyde. It was soon extinguished, however, by the aid of a few buckets of water from the town race, and the prompt assistance rendered by some of the neighbours. With the exception of a few yards of calico being burned, there was no damage done. The origin of the fire was the igniting of some calico near the stove.

We learn with much satisfaction that the postal authorities have called for tenders for the conveyance of mails once weekly each way between the post-office at Rocky Point and a post-office proposed to be opened at Bendigo Gully, from 1st February to 31st December, 1870. As the Chief Postmaster seems to have overlooked the fact that there is a widely-circulated advertising medium (the CROMWELL ARGUS) published within fifteen miles of Bendigo Gully, we take this opportunity of informing intending contractors that Tuesday, the 25th inst., is the day fixed for receiving tenders for the proposed service. The days on which the mails are to be carried are not specified in the advertisement, and we would therefore respectfully suggest that, as the Cardrona mail passes Rocky Point Post-office on Wednesdays, and returns by the same route on Thursdays, those days would be most convenient for the conveyance of the mail to and from Bendigo.

A ball was held at Mr Beare's hotel, Logantown, on Friday evening last, a large number being present. Dancing was vigorously kept up till morning, and the affair was in every respect a great success.

Another of those sad accidents which have recently been of such frequent occurrence in this and the neighbouring districts, took place at Lake Wanaka on the 12th inst. From information supplied us, we learn that three men were entering the lake from the Makarora River in a dingy belonging to Mr Russell, a strong wind blowing at the time. There was a heavy swell on the lake, and just as the dingy got into deep water she capsized, throwing the three men into the water. Two of them were good swimmers, and they twice succeeded in getting their companion, whose name was William Smith, on to the bottom of the boat. The second time, however, she suddenly righted, and Smith was again thrown into the water, when he sank—calling his dog, which had been in the boat. The dog was making for the shore, but turned back when he heard his master's voice. The faithful animal remained near the spot for several days, going into the water, and swimming about in search of his unfortunate master. The other two men after a great struggle, succeeded in reaching the shore, each holding on to the boat with one hand while they swam with the other. All search for the body of the missing man has been unavailing.

We are glad to observe that the Town Council have, within the last few days, caused the town water-race to be thoroughly cleansed of the rubbish with which it has for a length of time been infested. The water is now comparatively clear and pure, and has been running regularly for a week. The Council is entitled to the thanks of the public for this greatly improved state of things; and if it will only incur the expense of employing a man for a few days in every month to keep the race clean and in good order, the townspeople need not again be under the necessity of carrying water for domestic purposes up the steep banks of the Clutha or the Kawarau, as many have recently been compelled to do.

From the Nevis, our correspondent writes as follows:—"Excepting a decided movement of the miners to the upper part of the river, there has not been much worth noting in this locality. There is a subject I should like to bring under the notice of the residents in the various townships in this district—that is, the advisability of erecting bridges across the Molyneux and Kawarau rivers—at first, I would say, for horses and foot passengers. Just

above the Dunstan, the rocks look like natural piers; and I have no doubt an eligible site for a bridge might be found on the Kawarau. When

you take into consideration the sums of money subscribed for horse-racing, I think a sufficient sum might be collected for the purpose I have mentioned. The uncertain charges for crossing merchandise must be a great drawback to the trade of the town. Although Cromwell is so much nearer to the Nevis, many dray-loads of goods have been brought up from the Manukiria to the Chinese stores here. There must be some reason that they pay so much more in cartage from the lower towns, when Cromwell is so much nearer, and there ought not to be such a difference in prices as to induce them to travel so far with their orders. Why don't some of your merchants bestir themselves for their own profit and the benefit of the town?"

The Shamrock and Thistle Company's claim and tail-race at Moke Creek, Wakatipu, together with plant and working materials, are offered for private sale by Messrs I. Hallenstein and Co., as agents for the holders. Those on the look-out for a good mining property should not lose sight of this opportunity. Particulars will be found in the advertisement which appears in another column.

The Presbyterians Synod of Otago and Southland met in Dunedin last week. At the evening sederunt on Wednesday, the 12th inst., the case of the Rev. Mr Drake was considered, and after a long discussion, the Synod resolved, on the motion of the Rev. Mr Bannerman, that the Presbytery of Clutha should be instructed to visit Cromwell, by commission or otherwise, with full powers to arrange for the dispensation of ordinances there, retaining the services of Mr Drake, if practicable.—[From all we can learn about the matter, we are inclined to think that the people will "retain the services of Mr Drake," whether the Presbytery of Clutha find it "practical" or not.]

We have received a copy of Mackay's Gold-fields Almanac for 1870. As usual, it contains a great deal of useful information, and may fairly lay claim to being the best of its kind published in Otago. We have also to acknowledge receipt of the *Canterbury Times* and the *Southland News* sheet almanacs for 1870, both being very creditable productions.

The Misses and Master Howe invited their juvenile *confreres* to a picnic at Mr Kild's farm, about two miles from Cromwell, on Monday last. The children mustered in great force, and a considerable number of ladies and gentlemen also responded to the polite note of invitation issued. Games of all descriptions were entered into with spirit, and enjoyment seemed to be the order of the day with young and old. After partaking of a capital tea, spread on the green sward under the superintendence of Mrs Howe, who did her utmost to add to the enjoyment of those assembled together, sports were again entered into for a couple of hours, when a general start homewards was made, all being highly pleased with their day's enjoyment.

We have received the first and second numbers of the *Otago and Southland Mining Journal*, a "Farmer's Supplement" (to be issued monthly) being also published with the first number. It contains a quantity of news of particular interest to mining communities, and other readable matter. We wish it every success, and have no doubt that it will receive a fair share of support.

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We have received the first and second numbers of the *Otago and Southland Mining Journal*, a "Farmer's Supplement" (to be issued monthly) being also published with the first number. It contains a quantity of news of particular interest to mining communities, and other readable matter. We wish it every success, and have no doubt that it will

During the year, 100 patients have been admitted into the house. This, together with 16 remaining at the commencement of the year, will give a total of 116 persons who have been relieved. Out of this number 90 have been discharged cured or relieved; 13 have died; and 13 still remain in the Hospital. 55 out-door patients have also been relieved.

The indoor patients were from the following places:—Alexandra, 23; Clyde, 12; Tinkers Gully, 10; Drybread, 9; Blacks, 8; Bendigo Gully, 6; Cromwell, 6; Bannockburn, 4; MacLean's Station, 3; St Bathans, 3; Teviot, 3; Dunedin, 2; Dunstan, 2; Cardrona, 2; Luggate Creek, 1; Campbell and Low's Station, 1; and the Nevins, 2.

The cases of many of the patients admitted have been of a very severe and irksome nature, the Committee having found it necessary in several instances to engage a special night wardman.

Your Committee have to acknowledge the great assistance rendered to them in the raising of funds by the following gentlemen and committees:—Cromwell—Messrs J. A. Preshaw and P. Kelly; Blacks—Mr J. W. Burke; Drybread—Local Committee; Bendigo Gully—Mr J. E. Jones; Bannockburn—All Nations' Company; German Hill—Mr W. Bohning; Welshman's Gully—Messrs Pierce and Washer; Wanaka—Mr W. Norman; Alexandra—Mr Chin Chue; Tinkers—Local Committee.

Your Committee regret having to draw your attention to the small assistance rendered them by Alexandra, which, although sending in double the number of patients of any other place, has only contributed the small sum of £29 1s 1d for the year—£10 of which was for a horse race, £9 1s from the Chinese, and £3 3s paid out of the Resident Magistrate's Court. During the year 1868, the contributions from Alexandra were equally small, the reason assigned for this by many of the inhabitants being that the affairs of the institution are conducted partially. Your Committee would therefore strongly recommend that some gentlemen from Alexandra be elected on the committee for 1870, in order that this erroneous impression may be removed.

By the treasurer's report, which will be read, it will be observed that the expenditure for the past year is far in excess of that of 1868. Your Committee would explain that this is principally due to the large outlay in buildings and permanent improvements.

Your Committee's term of office having expired, they resign their trust into your hands, with the assurance that they have done their best for the institution, and the hope that their successors may continue to dispense the same amount of relief as has hitherto been done.

#### ABSTRACT OF RECEIPTS and EXPENDITURE for year ending 31st December 1869.

**Receipts.**—Balance from last report, £157 5s 8d; Government subsidy, £197 8s 1d; from paying patients, £35 10s. Per collectors—from Clyde, £143 1s 6d; Blacks, £5 1s; Runholders, £20 1s; Tinkers, £7 1s; Albert Town, £5; Bendigo Gully, £7; Bannockburn, £4 4s; St Bathans, £3 3s. Per Mr Preshaw—Cromwell District, £74 6s; Bannockburn Local Committee, £22 6s. Drybread, £26 19s 6d. Minstrels' Concert (Clyde), £11 6s 6d. Pierce and Washer, Welshman's, £14 5s. T. Lusk, Blacks, £2 10s. W. Bohning, German Hill, £3 1s. Temperance Ball (Blacks), £6. Hospital Races—Alexandra (per Dr Shaw), £10; Clyde (per W. Beresford), £13 1s 1d; do. (per J. Sherwood), £11 1s; Cromwell (per B. Duhig), £9 7s; do. (per R. M'Moran), £11 2s 6d; do. (per same), £7 1s. Hospital Races, £3 12s 8d. Balances due by Bank, £302 10s 3d. Total receipts, £2971 7s.

**Expenditure.**—By salaries, &c., £732 4s 6d; rations, £681 7s 5d; repairs and furniture, £106 1s 4d; fuel, light, and water, £162 17s 9d; surgical instruments, medicine and medical comforts, drugs, &c., £254 18s 1d; bedding and clothing, £36 19s; printing, advertising, and stationery, £60 13s 8d; bistro expenses, £42 12s; incidental expenses, £59 5s; surgeon's residence, £436 13s 3d; refractory ward, £183 4s 6d; living wards, erecting chimneys and sod wall, £112 1s. Balance carried forward, £302 10s 3d. Total, £2971 7s.

#### CLYDE PUBLIC LIBRARY.

A public meeting of subscribers and others was held in the library-room, adjoining the Council Chamber, on Saturday last, "to receive the report of the retiring Committee, and for the election of a new Committee in their stead." The attendance was not numerous. Mr Hazlett was voted to the chair, and called upon Mr Cambridge, the hon. Secretary, to explain the position of the library.—Mr Cambridge stated that the retiring Committee had been from various causes unable to make any progress during the past year. They had been until recently without a room of any kind in which to keep the books, and although he (the Secretary) had endeavoured in some measure to obviate the difficulty by keeping the library on his own premises, the subscriptions had fallen off, and the affairs of the institution were in a very unsatisfactory condition. The Committee had, however, recently been granted the use of the old Council Chamber for the purposes of the library, and it was most desirable that steps should at once be taken to get the library again into working order. There was no report to be submitted, because nothing had been done worth reporting; and the Committee for want of a quorum, had not held a meeting for over twelve months.

Mr Fache, the hon. treasurer, regretted the circumstances which had retarded the progress of the library during the past twelve months, but trusted that a united effort would now be made to place it on a more substantial and satisfactory footing than it had hitherto been.

The Chairman urged upon the meeting the importance of electing to the new Committee men who would take an interest in the improvement of the library; and trusted that, as the difficulty in regard to a library-room had now been overcome, every citizen would lend his aid in making the public library what it ought to be.

A vote of thanks was unanimously passed to Mr Cambridge for his kindness in taking charge of the books and performing the duties of librarian during the past year. The Chairman took the opportunity to remark that very few men would have taken the same amount of trouble with the library as Mr Cambridge had done, and that gentleman deserved the best thanks of the public for his services.—Mr Cambridge briefly acknowledged the compliment.

The election of a new Committee then occupied the attention of the meeting. The following gentlemen were duly proposed and seconded, viz.: Messrs. J. Hazlett, R. Barlow, J. U. Cambridge, T. George, V. Pyke, G. Fache, G. Hueston, W. Grindley, W. M'Kown, and M'Pherson. A ballot was taken, which resulted in the election of the seven first-named candidates.

#### QUEENSTOWN RACES.

(By our Special Reporter.)

The number of visitors from the Cromwell and down-districts was limited; but the attendance of those from Skippers, Moko Creek, and other outlying places in the Lake district was tolerably large. The weather was against the meeting generally—it rained. But it rained so mildly and so warmly that even the rain was ignored. People were determined to enjoy themselves, and enjoy themselves they did, despite weather influences. This is somewhat the manner they carried out their resolution.—They came into Queenstown from all quarters, as just mentioned. They dropped in by parties on Wednesday night. Wednesday night showed that people had money to speculate and were "game" to back their opinions. The rain began to fall during the evening in showers, and much damped the prospects of those who had arranged for picnics and that class of affairs. In matters connected with racing, opinions were divided. The appearance of Schoolboy had upset—so it was asserted—any combination between the Cromwell and Dunstan party. This supposition was, however, ill-founded; for all the horses ran on their merits, whether from Cromwell, Clyde, or other places. There was no feeling expressed in favour of any local horse winning the events,—the general opinion being that the Lake possessed no horse of any importance to carry off any stake. Good humour therefore prevailed, and that the best horse might win, wherever he came from, was the concurrent wish. All were unknown or "dark" horses, and the opinions backed so strongly were mere vague guesses. The Cromwell party profited by this, for they backed the winning horses in the end, and one or two venturesome gold-diggers fared the effect to their cost. Thursday, the first day of the races, broke gloomily enough, and was showy throughout; nevertheless, people prepared to go to the course. The attendance was not, however, large, and the racing was equally as indifferent as the weather. The course is a beautiful one, and for scenery nothing can compare with it in New Zealand. The Lake bounds it on the one side, the Kawarau on the other; and the Remarkable Range, in all its grandeur, overhangs it. Farms and cultivated fields fringe it, and, altogether, an air of picturesqueness surrounds it. It may be called, justly and truly, the Goodwood of New Zealand. The Queenstown Jockey Club might, however, fence and plant their noble reserve, and the sooner they do so the better. With this addition the attractions will be superb. As it was—with all the steamer and conveyances brought many picnic parties; and they, despite the rain, appeared to enjoy themselves. The races were hollow affairs. There was not a single well-contested race, and yet this was not due to bad handicapping, as the weight-for-age races were hollow like the others. Altogether, the sport was very meagre. I never saw worse day on this course. The horses were second class; the running was second if not third class. And yet it was pleasant to see how people were bent upon making the most of things. The accommodation for the press was most indifferent also, and only owing to Mr Eichardt, the lessee of the hothouse, did I obtain any position to view the races. In fact, the who's affair was conducted on a free-and-easy principle. I cannot tell what horses declared over-weight. The stewards' room was an assemblage of jockeys, trainers, owners, and stewards. I do not wish to witness again such a mess. To add to the difficulty was the fact that the stewards had issued no card of races: all the knowledge the public gained was by an occasional notice posted up on the judge's box. Perhaps all was done that could be done, but colour obliges me to say it was very badly done. Then the races were late—hours after the appointed time. I do not choose to further allude to the shortcomings, but certainly a better management must exist in the future. We all left with a kind impression of the geniality of the Wakatipu people, of their efforts to make our stay pleasant: of their hospitality: but of the conduct of the race meeting the last said the better. It only remains to say that Mr Eichardt managed the hothouse excellently, and that not a complaint was uttered in respect to them. This is high testimony indeed.

One of our Cromwell ladies (Mrs Smitham) had a narrow escape from drowning in crossing the Shotover, having slipped off the planks that do duty as a bridge. The accident, though one calculated to jar the nerves, did not prevent the lady gracing the course with her presence during the meet.

The following are the results of the races:—

**MAIDEN PLATE,** of 25 sovs. Distance, one mile and a half.

M'Moran's b g Wallaby, aged, 10st 1lb (Waddell) 1

Dawkins' br m Wild Rose, 4 yrs, 9st 1lb (Gray) 2

The following horses ran:—Bobby, Benjamin, Royal Oak, and Native. The race is easily described:—Wallaby was never headed, and won easily. The betting, if anything, was in favour of Native; but Wallaby and Wild Rose against the field were fairly backed. This confidence was not misplaced; but the time was slow, and the race nothing to record.

**TOWN PLATE,** of 60 sovs., with a sweep of 3 sovs. added. Distance, two miles.

M'Moran's g g Musician, aged, 10st 1lb (Waddell) 1

Dawkins' g m Nelly Gray, aged, 10st 1lb (Gray) 2

Ryan's b f Brunette, 3 yrs, 6st 1lb 3

M'Farlane's b g Schoolboy, aged, 10st 1lb 0

Mr Smitham's Cromwell was also entered for this race, but was scratched. The race is as easily described as the former one. Schoolboy was too beefy, if not too old. Brunette looked weedy; but both of these horses made the running for a mile. Gradually Musician and Nelly Gray drew up at the one-and-a-half mile distance. Nelly Gray never approached Musician, though she ran gamely; but she succeeded easily in passing Brunette and Schoolboy. Musician won, however, just as he liked. Betting, even on Nelly Gray and on Brunette, 5 to 10 on Schoolboy. The backers of Brunette were very free with their "sugar," and dropped some of it.

**WAKATIPU HANDICAP,** of 20 sovs. Open to all horses owned in the Wakatipu and Nokonui districts by residents since 1st November last. Distance, two miles. Entrance, £2 2s.

Malaghian's g g Garryowen, aged, 9st 6lb (Traynor) 1

Scole's b g Hoppy, aged, 9st 1lb (Waddell) 2

Atkins's b g Benjamin, 5 yrs, 8st 13lb (Pritchard) 3

Betting even on Hoppy against the field. The supporters of Garryowen, however, booked a number of bets. The result of the race surprised many, for after the first mile and a-half the grey had it all his own way, and won as he liked.

**HACK SELLING RACE,** of 20 sovs.; heats. Open to all untrained horses. Once round course.

M'Intyre's b g Rory O'More 2 1 1

Scole's g g Dold 1 2 2

There were four other entries for this race.

This concluded the first day's racing, and vehicles and the steamer were soon crowded and on their way to Queenstown.

The evening was spent very pleasantly there. The Queenstown amateurs were performing in aid of the school funds. Their neat theatre was well attended, and all passed off successfully. The house was full, and visitors from a distance were surprised to find that this district possesses a real and veritable theatre. There were also dances at two hotels, raffles without number, and other swindles. Still it rained, but still people were bent on enjoying themselves.

#### SECOND DAY.

In the starting of the horses, an unpardonable error occurred in the Handicap. Cromwell was kept out in the rain for a long time, as well as all the other horses, except Spec, who was stripped in the middle of the reserve at the last moment.

The rain had made the course, if anything, more elastic. Neither jockeys nor owners of horses had a word to say against it.

**HURDLE RACE,** of 45 sovs. 1½ mile heats. Over five flights of hurdles. No less weight up than 10st 4lb.

M'Moran's g g Faugh-a-Ballagh (Swan) 1 1

Malaghian's g g Garryowen (M'Carthy) 2 2

Dawkins' ch g Tornado (Cook) 0 0

Grant's ch g Bobby (Smith) 0 0

The betting was very freely on Garryowen against the field, as much as 2 to 1 being laid on him. The dark grey, though very beefy, ran gamely, never refused a fence, and won the first heat easily. Garryowen ran round the last leap before coming into the straight running. This gave Faugh-a-Ballagh a great advantage, and although Garryowen raced hard to regain his position he failed to do so. The second heat was quite a fight.

**LAKE DISTRICT HANDICAP,** of 85 sovs. Open to all horses. Distance, two and a-half miles. Smitham's br g Cromwell, 5 yrs, 6st 9lb (Neott) 1

Dawkins' g m Nelly Grey, 6 yrs, 8st 12lb (Gray) 2

M'Moran's c g Spec, 4 yrs, 8st 7lb 0

Grant's g f Butterfly, 3 yrs, 6st 4lb 0

M'Farlane's b g Schoolboy, aged, 12st 4lb 0

Ryan's b f Brunette, 4 yrs, 6st 4lb 0

A great delay took place in starting. The betting was in favour of Brunette, who was freely taken against the field. Spec was also a favourite. Five to one was laid against Cromwell, and the same against Butterfly and Schoolboy. The start was a fair one. Cromwell made the running, though hard held in. Nelly Grey did her best, but the weight told against her. Spec ran well for a mile, and then he was done, though he came in a bad third. Spec might have done better but for his condition. The way Nelly Grey caught up her horses and finished second was something to be remembered. As it was, Nelly was a dozen lengths behind, and Spec "nowhere." It was from the straight running a "tail race."

**LADIES' PURSE,** 20 sovs. Gentlemen riders. Welter Weights. Mile and a-half.

M'Moran's g g Musician, aged, 12st 7lb 1

M'Moran's ch g Spec, 4 yrs, 11st 4lb 2

M'Farlane's b g Schoolboy, aged, 12st 7lb 3

In consequence of the heavy rain at this stage of the proceedings, the remainder of the races were postponed till the following day.]

#### THIRD DAY.

The weather was glorious, and the attendance large. It is unnecessary to record any event beyond the Consolation Handicap and the Hospital Race. In the former, Mr Dawkins' Nelly Grey, carrying 9st, won easily. In the Hospital Race Wallaby showed his colors again, and won with ease.

#### MOUNT IDA RACES.

We abridge from the *Mount Ida Chronicle* the following report of the first day's racing:—

The appearance of early morn was anything but favourable to the anticipated meet, the rain pouring down in torrents from an early hour till eight or nine o'clock, when a break occurred, accompanied by a fresh, and at the same time a drying, breeze.

The first event of the day was the

**MAIDEN PLATE,** of 30 sovs. For all horses that have never won an advertised prize—matches and hack races excepted. Weight for age. Distance, a mile and a-half—Entries: M'Kay's Shepherdless, Little's Hotspur, Laverty's Zoo, Allen's Hawkhill, Stevenson's Sir Charles.

A good start was effected, and on the conclusion of the first round Hawkhill had the lead, closely followed by Zoo. Hotspur pulled well up to the front, and kept neck and neck with the leading horse till he fell, throwing his rider (W. M'Kay) violently to the ground. Sir Charles following so closely in the track of Hotspur also came to the ground—his rider (Frank Foote) sustaining a severe fracture of the collar bone. He was immediately attended to by Dr M'Cambridge of this town, and Dr Niven of Blacks, who happened fortunately to be on the course, and had the dislocated bone temporarily set. He was afterwards conveyed to Nasby. Time—3min., 8secs. The horses were placed as under—

Zoo, 3 yrs (M'Donald) 1

Hawkhill, 4 yrs (Robinson) 2

Shepherdless, 6 yrs (M'Kay) 3

**DISTRICT HANDICAP,** of 100 sovs. Distance, two miles.—Entries: Hazlett's Novice, Inder's Lady Bird, Foster's Hamilton, Foster's Miss Foote, Devine's Captain Scott, Taggart's Excelsior, Keenan's Topsy; Keenan's Gamecock, Hutchison's Galatea.

Excelsior, 8st 10lb, (Goodman) 1

Novice, 7st 7lb, (Edwards) 2

Lady Bird, 7st 7lb, (Inder) 3

Taggart's Excelsior took the lead, and on the conclusion of the first round was a head in advance of Captain Scott. Topsy a close third. In the second round the heavy weight (9st) began to tell on Captain Scott. Excelsior kept the lead throughout, and came in three lengths in advance of Novice. Lady Bird pulled up on the straight running, and passed Captain Scott within thirty yards of the Judge's stand. Galatea, in the first round, dropped, supposed to be severely hurt in the back, and was afterwards sold for £3 as she lay on the course. Time—3min. 57secs.

**HURDLE RACE,** of 30 sovs. Welter weights for age. Distance, one mile.—Entries: Foster's Charlie, Patterson's Nigger, Stevenson's Sir Charles.

Sir Charles (R. Main) 1

Nigger (M'Kay) 2

Charlie (Laverty) 3

Sir Charles took the lead, and maintained his position to the finish, coming in an easy winner (1st heat) by about thirty lengths. In the second heat Charlie took the lead, but Sir Charles overtook and passed Charlie, and won by about two lengths.

**HANDICAP TROTTING RACE,** of 20 sovs.; saddle or harness. Distance, three miles. Entries: M'Kays' Moschen, Miller's Tommy, Packman's Rattling Jack, Williams' Barnard, M'Kays' Lady Syntax, Hazlett's Stumpy.

Moschen (M'Kay) 1

Rattling Jack (Pullock) 2

Lady Syntax (R. M'Kay) 3

At the end of the first round, Moschen had a good lead, with Rattling Jack second. During the second round Moschen kept well ahead, going very steadily, and was fully 100 yards in advance of Rattling Jack, who still maintained his second place. Barnard, although carrying 24lbs overweight, would have made a better show in this race had she been called upon. Moschen won easily. Time, 9min. 42secs.

**HACK SELLING RACE,** of 20 sovs. Distance, one mile. Post entry.

Roderick 1

Black Doctor 2

Barebones 3

This concluded the sports of the day. Roderick, the winner of the Hack Race, was then put up for sale, and was bought by Mr Hazlett, of Clyde, for £32.

## BUSINESS DIRECTORY.

Advertisers in the CROMWELL ARGUS will have their names and addresses inserted in this column free of charge.

## CROMWELL.

Bridger, R. F., Agent, Melmore street  
Barnes, W., Blacksmith and Farrier, do.  
Corse, Dr. James, Surgeon, do.  
Cossar & Smith, Bakers and Grocers, do.  
Dawkins, James, Free Trade Butchery, do.  
Dagg, R. E., Clutha Hotel, do.  
Fitch, Allen, Draper and Clothier, do.  
Goodger, G. W., Junction Commercial Hotel, Melmore-street  
Lindsey, E., Blacksmith, Melmore-street  
Scott, J., Baker, do.  
Marsh, John, Bridge Hotel, do.  
Kidd, Robert, Cromwell Hotel, do.  
Manders, H., Agent, do.  
Whetter, W. H., Bootmaker, do.  
Kelly, John M., Cordial Manufacturer, Melmore-street  
Pierce, O., Smithfield Butchery, Melmore-st.  
Shandy, W., & Co., General Merchants, do.  
Smitham, William, Kawarau Hotel, do.  
Hallenstein, I., & Co., Merchants, do.  
Weaver, David, General Merchant, do.  
Matthews & Fenwick, General Printers, do.  
Hallenstein, I., & Co., Drapers and Clothiers CLYDE.

Auckland, W., Painter, Paperhanger, do.  
Barlow, R., Watchmaker and Jeweller  
Brough, Anthony, Barrister and Solicitor  
Fitch, Allen, Draper and Outfitter  
Riley, Edward, Junction Hotel  
Marshall, M., Chemist and Druggist  
Coz, John, Port Philip Hotel  
Hadlett, James, General Merchant

## ALEXANDRA.

Beresford, W., Builder and Undertaker  
Calder, P., Bread and Biscuit Baker  
Jack, Alexander, Criterion Hotel  
Martin, W. B., Watch and Clock Maker  
Mason, J. H., Royal Mail Hotel

## BENDIGO GULLY &amp; ROAD.

Beare, J., Refers' Arms Hotel and Store  
Mercer, Francis, Temperance Restaurant  
McPherson, H., Wakefield Ferry and Hotel, Rocky Point  
Perriam, John, Welcome Home Hotel and Store, Lowburn  
Rocky Point Ferry: John McCormick  
Smith and O'Donnell, Old Bendigo Hotel and Stores  
Stevenson, J., Al Bakery

## KAWARAU GORGE.

Campion, Nicholas, Diggers' Rest Hotel  
Heron, Thomas, White Hart Hotel  
Wrightson, John, Blowers' Arms Hotel

## BANNOCKBURN.

Halliday, J., Shepherd's Creek Hotel & Store  
Nicholas, J., Gladstone Coal Works  
Richards, J., Bannockburn Hotel and Store  
Stuart, James, Ferry Hotel

## NEVIS.

Curnaby, George, British Stores  
Korl, C., Nevis Crossing Hotel and Store  
Thompson, Edward, Northumberland Arms Hotel and Store

## QUEENSTOWN.

Boyne, Robert, Storekeeper and News Agent  
Bridge, J., General Blacksmith and Farrier  
Eichardt, A., Queen's Arms Hotel  
M'Larn, W., Prince of Wales Hotel  
Robertson, J. W., & Co., Timber Merchants  
Robertson & Hallenstein, Brunswick Fleur Mills

## ARROWTOWN.

Pritchard, R., General Merchant, Arrowtown  
WANAKA.

Hedditch & Russell, Wanaka Hotel, Pemroke

## DUNEDIN.

Baird, William, Bookseller and Stationer  
Beaver, A., Watchmaker and Jeweller  
Braithwaite, Joseph, News-agent, Fleet-street  
Chaplin, John, & Co., Couch Proprietors  
Dickson, T., Cabinetmaker and Upholsterer  
Fraser, Alexander, Advertising and Commission Agent  
Hay Brothers, Tailors and Outfitters  
Hillock, John, Watchmaker and Jeweller  
Key, W., Cabinetmaker and Upholsterer  
Kincaid, M'Queen and Co., Vulcan Foundry  
London Pianoforte and Music Saloon  
Matthews, George, Nurseryman, Seedsman  
Otago Hotel: T. A. Jones  
Reith & Nicolson, Booksellers and Stationers  
Sinclair, W., Tailor and Clothier  
Sparrow and Thomas, Dunedin Ironworks and Seed-grower  
Tobold, Frederick, Watchmaker & Jeweller  
Thompson, W., Red Lion Hotel  
Wilson, W., Engineer, Boilermaker, &c.  
Winstanley, Thomas, Scandinavian Hotel  
Wheeler, R. T., Advertising and General Commission Agent  
York Hotel: Alex. Mee.

## MISCELLANEOUS.

Fenwick, R., East Taieri Hotel  
Hawea Saw Mills: J. D. Ross, proprietor  
Hanger, S., Vulcan Hotel, St. Bathans  
Maidman, H., Albion Hotel and Store, Luggate  
Mackenzie, Hugh, Junction Hotel, between Taipoa and Tauranga

## Clyde Advertisements.

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SOLICITOR, & CONVEYANCER.  
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A LARGE and elegant stock of PAPER-HANGINGS at  
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Five Thousand Pieces of Newest Patterns,  
at Prices to Suit the Million.  
Flock and Gold Papers in Endless Variety.  
Glass, Oils, Colours, Paints, and Varnishes  
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Come and See. You're Bound to Buy.

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Prescriptions carefully prepared.

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Importer of English, Foreign, and Colonial  
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Corner of  
SUNDERLAND, FERRY, AND CAMP STREETS,  
CLYDE.

EDWARD RILEY - PROPRIETOR.

EDWARD RILEY, having purchased the  
above hotel from Mr A. Moore, begs to inform  
his friends and the public generally that he is prepared  
to accommodate them in first-class style.

GOOD STABLING.—ALCOCK'S BILLIARD TABLE.

The CONCERT HALL is the largest in the the  
country districts, and is admirably adapted for  
Concerts, Balls, Public Meetings, or any other  
demonstration.

LONDON HOUSE !  
CROMWELL AND CLYDE

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Begs to inform the inhabitants of CROMWELL  
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opened out a large and select stock of

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Comprising all the newest patterns in  
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Ladies' Underclothing, and Baby Linen,  
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A magnificent assortment of Ladies' and  
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Lambs' Wool and Merino Pants,

Flannel Shirts,

Hosiery of all kinds,

Men's Straw and Felt Hats in all the  
newest styles.

THE BOOT DEPARTMENT

Embraces an extensive selection of  
Ladies' and Girls' Single and Double-

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Ladies' Black and Coloured Kid Boots,

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Boys' and Children's Elastic-side and

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Men's Elastic-side Boots, from 13s. 6d.

Men's Bluchers, Wellingtons, Half-

Wellingtons,

Colonial-made Watertight, & Shooting-

Boots,

Nuggets and Gum Boots.

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A range of STABLING is in course of erection, which, when completed, will be second to none out of Dunedin; and travellers may rely upon every care being taken of horses baited at the Port Philip Stables.

J A M E S H A Z L E T T,

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WINE AND SPIRIT MERCHANT,

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Packers Supplied at Lowest Rates.

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To the Inhabitants of the Cromwell District.

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A N D M A N U F A C T U R I N G J E W E L L E R,

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ALSO,

Lately arrived, a very suitable and elegant assortment of FANCY GOODS, too numerous to particularize, very suitable for CHRISTMAS PRESENTS and NEW YEAR'S GIFTS.

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C R I T E R I O N F A M I L Y & C O M M E R C I A L

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From the Pit in Adams's Gully, Coal of ex-  
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residents at Bannockburn, at moderate prices.

NICHOLAS & CO.,

Proprietors.

S T U A R T'S F E R R Y,

KAWARAU RIVER

## Captured by Brigands.

[From Once-a-Week.]

"At ten sharp, and mind you're punctual," was the parting injunction of my friend, as we separated at the door of the Casino Inglese, in Rome, during the month of April 1869. Expeditions to various parts of the Campagna are among the chief attractions of the "Holy City," when the mind has become, as it were, sated and almost harassed by a continual round of sight-seeing. And very pleasant are these riding-parties, consisting, as they do generally, of some seven or eight young people, with two or three married men to leaven the lump, the most important member being some *habitué* well acquainted with the turns of the Campagna. The morning of our expedition broke one of those lovely days that seem inseparable from a southern climate, and that positively shame the most determined sluggard from his bed to enjoy the morning air. Shortly before ten I was at the Porta del Popolo, inspecting my horse, and making sure that a small supply of corn had been sent for him in the carriage that was to accompany us. This carriage was occupied by three ladies, the mothers of the young girls on horseback, and by an English artist, who was in too delicate health to attempt the long ride to Galera. All told, our riding party consisted of eight—three ladies and five men, the extra one being Mr Rivers, the well-known guide over the Campagna, to whom every wood and turn on its broad expanse is as familiar as the shops in Piccadilly are to a Londoner. With the arrival of the ladies began a long argument as to the hour the helpers were to meet the horses; which horse was the property of which lady; and a host of various trifles that eventually delayed our departure till 10.30, and would probably have kept us much longer had not Mr Rivers, being a little deaf and very determined, quietly trotted off up the road, leaving us all to follow as best we could. After about half-an-hour's quiet riding we branched out on to the Campagna, and were soon merrily galloping along its enormous enclosures, our horses' heads set straight for Galera. In about four hours' time we were stabling our quadrupeds at a farm-house that lays half a mile from the deserted town itself, and helping each other to take off the saddles and bridles. We all then proceeded to walk down the hill to the spot chosen for our picnic. Imagine, reader, a spreading walnut tree by the banks of a noisy stream, a large cave in the background, and behind that a high precipice covered with brambles and shrubs; on the right, the ruins of Galera, now covered with ivy and weeds; on the left, a lovely valley running into the broad Campagna. This was the place we had chosen, and I think I may fairly say a fitter or lovelier spot could not have been fixed upon. "Ho! Ludovico! bring out the *mayonnaise*; now the bread, plates, knives, and glasses, and let us set to work at once, for Galera is no place to tarry in"—malaria and other noisome diseases attack the loiterer in this pleasant valley, and cause him to rue the day he sojourned here too long. Luncheon over, we young ones wandered round the ruins, while the artist, Mr Rivers, and the two other occupants of the carriage took an elevated position to enjoy the view. For two hours we clambered over the stones, peered into roofless houses, admired ruined churches, and tumbled into holes craftily concealed by overhanging branches, until, at last, we arrived at the conclusion that the time had come to return for our horses. It was then four o'clock, and we dawdled so long on our road up to the farm, picking the violets that covered the banks on our way, that it was past five when we filed out of the yard on our road homewards. I never yet saw a riding party, especially a Roman riding party, on a fine spring evening, that did not divide itself into pairs, and, strange to say, those pairs are generally very much engrossed by each other's conversation; far be it from me to say they flirt. Birds fly in pairs very often, and, as Harold Skinned would say, "Mankind will not surely deny to young people what it concedes to birds;" and during this eventful ride mankind, represented by Mr Rivers, had been gracious towards the young, never once interfering with their conversation or suggesting the presence of a gooseberry-picker, as a third person is sometimes not inaptly styled. Now it happened that I, the writer of this narrative, had taken up my position as a member of the last pair, the second person being one of Columbia's fair daughters. I hope it does not sound conceited to say that she was sufficiently interested

in my conversation to lag behind the rest with me, and to trust to my knowledge of the Campagna to bring her eventually in safety to the Porta del Popolo; at all events such was the case, and as such I relate it. The sun was now fast setting, and those in front of us were urging their horses into a gallop, wishing to reach home before darkness came on. By this time Miss K. and myself were some distance behind our party, and whilst entering a wood that lies about half-way between Galera and Rome, I mentioned to her that when once clear of the trees it would be better for us to push on and join the main body of the party, as I thought that our horses were getting tired, and that they would go better in company. The path through the wood was narrow, and Miss K. preferred leading, so that when about half way through she was ahead by perhaps a hundred yards. Suddenly I found my horse's bridle seized, and myself roughly dragged from the saddle by a man who had started from the bushes. Before I could open my lips to shriek a word of warning to Miss K., I had a dirty rag stuffed into my mouth, and found myself in danger of speedy suffocation. However, I had the satisfaction of seeing Miss K. look round, and, taking in at a glance the state of affairs, whip her horse into a canter that soon enabled her to outstrip the ruffian who had started in pursuit of her. My own horse, too, had escaped, and rushed wildly through the bushes in the direction of Rome. The man who had attempted to seize my companion, finding his chase a fruitless one, now returned, and aided brigand No. 1 in the pleasing and lucrative pursuit of rifling my pockets. They soon eased me of the few coins I had, taking also my pocket-book and hand-kerchief; but a glad smile came over their faces as they drew out of my inside pocket a small silver-mounted pistol that I always carried with me, fondly imagining that it might some day prove useful: foolish hope and vain precaution! I had been dragged off my horse and pinioned, before I could get my hand near it; so much, then, for the utility of a pistol. As soon as the sound of the horses' hoofs had died away in the distance, my captor roughly jerked me to my feet, and proceeded to drag me through the bushes in the direction of Galera: he still kept the filthy rag over my mouth, and I was well nigh sick from the odour of garlic it exhaled. I had now sufficiently recovered from my surprise to examine the looks and dress of my captors. They were both dark, strong looking men of middle stature, not at all of a bad cast of countenance, and clothed in the regular Campagna peasant's dress, with a sheepskin sort of jacket. Guns they had none, but each man carried a thick stick, and, I shrewdly suspected, carried in his pocket the invariable stiletto of the Roman peasant. I was not much of an Italian scholar, and these men talked in a very different Italian from mine, but still I managed to catch a few words of their conversation, from which I made out that they were calculating on the chance of reaching Galera before the gendarmes, who were sure to be sent out by the riding party immediately on their arrival in Rome, could overtake us. After about half-an-hour's walk, the rag was removed from my mouth, but I had a strong hint given me as to preserving silence, by seeing my own pistol at full cock pointed in a line with my ear, and a sign given me by the man on my right that I should receive the contents if I attempted to call for help. After an hour's hard walking, I became so exhausted that I felt hardly able to proceed. I had been in delicate health during part of my stay in Rome, and I had not yet recovered my strength; besides, walking through bushes in boots and spurs is no easy task. At last, totally exhausted, I threw myself to the ground, and showed by signs that I could not move on. After some hesitation, the man who had pulled me from my horse proceeded to pull off my boots and spurs. "Well," thought I; "better to walk without them on this smooth grass where there are no stones." But I soon discovered my error, for I found that there were innumerable little hard lumps of earth and brambles, which caused me the most fearful agony, and I was again obliged to throw myself down. My strength was now exhausted, and I signed to them that if they wished me to proceed they must carry me. I closed my eyes, and, throwing my head back, begged earnestly that I might be allowed some, if it was only ten minutes', repose. I had just begun to think they had granted my request, when I was suddenly made to start up by the most fearful dart of pain through

my feet; and to my rage and horror I saw that the ruffians had lighted a match, and were carefully applying it to the soles of my feet. They now explained to me by signs that unless I moved on, they would continue their pleasing operation till I did. For a moment I tried to bear the pain and lie still, but the agony became too intense, and I had to stand up; once fairly upright, they passed a rope around my waist, and actually dragged me along. I felt that I was gradually losing consciousness, my eyelids closed, my head swam, and a sort of buzzing noise filled my ears, and I became indifferent as to what was happening. Suddenly I became alive to the fact that we were among the ruins of Galera, and by a great effort I sufficiently recovered myself to notice that we were entering a cave, formed by the fall of some large stones from the wall of the town that overlooked the valley. Once inside this place, my captors tied my legs and arms, and threw me on a rough couch of fern, which was strewed near the entrance of the cave, and then left me to rest, while they conversed earnestly at the other end. I tried hard to listen, but exhausted nature overpowered me directly, and I fell into a deep feverish sleep. I must have slept about four hours when I was awakened by a terrible thirst; my eyes were burning, and my head throbbed with such intensity as to be almost unbearable. The two men were sitting, wrapped in their cloaks, about five yards from my bed, and when I begged for some water one of them stretched out his arm and handed me a small jugful. Having slaked my thirst, I fell back again, and soon slept. I was rudely awakened by a feeling of intense suffocation, and of intense heat about the head and neck. Being alarmed at what I concluded was some new device of the enemy, I felt about with my hands, and found that one of the men was holding his cloak over my head and neck. At first I thought he meant to suffocate me, but soon the sound of men's voices came confusedly to my ear through the cloak, and I immediately guessed at what was really the case, that a party sent from Rome were searching the ruins in quest of me. My first impulse was to sing out for help: but I speedily subsided when I felt a pistol pressing against my temple. I then felt that my only chance was to lie still, and trust that one of the party, more minute and careful than the rest, would discover the mouth of the cave during the search, and proceed to explore it. But the hope was very faint, for I remembered that the entrance was nearly concealed by hanging bushes and ivy, and it was almost impossible for anyone not knowing of the cave to suspect its existence. Evidently, then, I must arrange some plan to attract the attention of the searchers, and that quickly. I do not think I mentioned that the floor of the cave was a deep incline, the lower end being the entrance: there was then a drop of some nine feet from the cave to the ground. We had climbed up this by means of some projecting stones. During my restless sleep, I remembered having struck my feet against a small barrel at the end of my bed of fern. I now determined, if possible, to give this a kick, trusting to the velocity it would acquire in running down so steep an incline to carry it out of the cave before it could be stopped, and hoping that the noise of its fall would attract the attention of some of the police. So, gathering up my feet as far and as quickly as possible, I gave the barrel a most energetic kick, which, though it had the effect of almost breaking my bare toes, sent the cask spinning down the incline and out of the mouth of the cave. For a moment it hung in the ivy, and great was my fear that it would stick there, but it was too heavy, and finally fell with a crash, that made my heart glad, into the valley beneath. When the ruffian who was keeping my head covered felt the sort of jump I gave in order to effect my kick, he at first imagined that I was attempting to break my cords and escape. He bent down, therefore, to hold my head the tighter, and consequently the rolling barrel did not catch his eye. It was only when the noise of its fall came upon his ear that he suspected the real reason of my movement. As quickly as he could, he dragged me from my couch, and tried to pull me to the other end of the cave; but seeing that he did not intend to use his pistol, I gathered courage, and wriggled and struggled to such purpose that before he could drag me very far the cavern was filled with my friends, and my captors became in their turn prisoners. Luckily for me, the barrel that I had despatched so vigorously had almost fallen on the cocked

## Selected Poetry.

## THE GRAVE IN THE FAR WEST.

A lonely spot, and a lonely grave,  
On the bank of the beautiful river,  
Where willows droop and aspens wave,  
And their shadows cross it quiver.

No sculptured marble to tell the name  
Of the sleeper who rests below;  
Or to say that a traveller, unknown to fame,  
Was buried here long ago.

Only a smooth and grassy mound,  
By the side of the beautiful river,  
And a rough gray stone with mosses crowned,  
Where the scattered sunbeams quiver.

To tell of the glad young life that beat  
In the silent breast below;  
And the high hopes quench'd by the arrowfeat  
From the treacherous rod man's bow.

Only these to say that with rever'd tread  
They buried him 'neath the willow,  
And placed the stone above his head  
That had been his dying pillow—

Only these to speak of the mother's woe,  
Too deep for words to measure,  
Whose boy was laid here so long ago—  
Her lone heart's only treasure.

## Wit and Humour.

Artemus Ward said that the man who wrote "I'm saddest when I sing" was a fool to sing much.

Iowa recently had a wedding in which a female clergyman tied the knot and officially kissed the bridegroom.

"Your purse, Tom," said an indulgent father to a spendthrift son, "reminds me of a thunder cloud."—"How so, father?"—"Because it is always lightning."

An Irish glazier was putting in a pane of glass, when a groom standing by began to joke him, telling him to put in plenty of putty. The Irishman bore the banter for some time, but at last silenced his tormentor by, "Arrah now, be off wid ye, or else I'll put a pain in yer head widout any putty!"

"Wife," said a married man, looking for his bootjack, after she was in bed, "I have a place for everything, and you ought to know it."—"Yes," said she, "I ought to know where you keep your late hours."

A gentleman of our acquaintance has asked our advice on the subject of his pecuniary affairs, which he says have become so deranged that all his liabilities have gone out of his mind.—*Punch*.

A man passing along the street with a looking-glass under his arm met a little boy, and thought to be witty at his expense. "Here, boy," said he, "just come and look in this glass, and you'll see a monkey." "Ah, indeed," said the boy, "how did you discover that?"—The answer is not recorded.

The servant of a Prussian officer one day met a croney, who enquired of him how he got along with his master. "Oh, excellently," replied the servant; "we live on very friendly terms. Every morning we beat each other's coats—the only difference being, he takes his coat off, and I keep mine on."

An Ohio stumper, while making a speech, paused in the midst of it, and exclaimed, "Now, gentlemen, what do you think?" Instantly a man arose in the assembly, and, with one eye partially closed, modestly replied, "I think, sir—I do indeed, sir—I think that if you and I were to stump the country together, we would tell more lies than any other two men in the country, sir, and I'd not say a word during the whole time, sir."

A tall Eastern girl named Short long loved a big Mr Little, while Mr Little, thinking little of Short, loved a little lass named Long. To make a long story short, Little proposed to Long, and Short longed to be even with Little's shortcomings. So, Short meeting Long, threatened to marry Little before Long, which caused Little in a very short time to marry Long. Query: Did short love big Little less because big Little loved little Long?

In a narrow lane, where it was impossible for two vehicles to pass, a Quaker in his gig confronted an obstinate fellow in a cart. The Quaker mildly declined to back his horse—the obstinate fellow swore he wouldn't back his horse. After an hour or so of ineffectual discussion, the man in the cart thought to crush the Quaker into submission by taking out a newspaper and calmly perusing it. "Friend," said the quaker, "when thou hast finished thy paper, I trust thou wilt lend it to me." The man was beaten, and backed his horse without much more ado.

A clergyman advising his people to save some of their earnings in a penny savings' bank, was met by the following proverbs:—"A bird in the hand is worth two in the bush"; "Save a feather, and lose a goose"; "Penny wise, and pound foolish." All of these sayings are very good, and contain much wisdom, but were plainly misappropriated. In like manner, a lazy man will often excuse dilatoriness by the proverb, "More haste, less speed." A glutton once excused himself with the quaint saying, "An empty sack can't stand upright." A careful, cautious man, often hurt and wounded if he has had a misfortune or loss, will use the really good but misapplied adage, "You should look before you leap." Untruthfulness is often "toned" by the bad proverb, "White lies will wash." Covetousness it excused by the provident maxim, "Take care of no one." And so on: people are so apt to twist proverbs to answer their own purposes that good maxims are oftentimes compelled to cover bad actions.

A sight seldom witnessed by landsmen and only occasionally by seamen, greeted the eyes of a favoured few at Auckland on the 16th December. *The New Zealand Herald* says that about 5 p.m., a heavy bank of clouds, moving slowly up from the northward and eastward, passed over Rangitoto, and when above the channel between that island and the North Head, commenced taking in a supply of moisture from a waterspout of considerable magnitude. At length, gorged to repletion, the body of vapours cast off the suction hose, and finally discharged its aqueous contents over our city, in one of the heaviest showers that we have known for a long time past.



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T. A. JONES, (late of the Golden Age Hotel, Stafford-street, Dunedin), begs to inform his Country Friends, as well as in Dunedin, that he has purchased the interest of Mr J. M'Cubbin in the Otago Hotel,

Rattray-Street, Dunedin, and by his long experience in the trade, hopes still to merit a share of their patronage.

A Cold Luncheon, consisting of ham, beef, pork pies, salad, &c., between the hours of 12 and 2 o'clock; charge, one shilling.

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T. A. JONES.

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(ESTABLISHED 1858.)

A. BEAVER, WATCHMAKER AND JEWELLER, Princes-street,

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THEODOLITES—Opera, marine, and field glasses.

CLOCKS—A large assortment of English, French, and American clocks, suitable for drawing-rooms, dining-rooms, halls, or kitchens.

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Note the Address:—Wheeler's Advertising Agency, Stafford-street, Dunedin.

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Mr Alex. Fraser's Advertising Agency, No. 1 Chambers, Princes-street;

Mr R. T. Wheeler's Advertising Agency, Stafford-street;

Mr A. R. Livingston's Stationery Warehouse, Princes-street;

Messrs Reith and Nicolson's Bible Warehouse, Princes-street.

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